

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00882 121013 Z

44

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 AF-04 IO-03 L-02 NSC-10 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 H-01 T-01 RSR-01

/058 W

----- 027530

R 120930 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7708

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL OPORTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0882

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PO

SUBJECT: CAETANO BACKGROUNDER

1. RELIABLE LOCAL JOURNALIST HAD HOUR'S DEEP BACK-  
GROUND SESSION WITH P. M. CAETANO MARCH 8. CAETANO,  
WHO WAS IN A RELAXED AND EXPANSIVE MOOD, STRESSED  
FOLLOWING THEMES:

(A) P. M. SAW SOME EVOLUTION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN  
LISBON AND OVERSEAS TERRITORIES, BUT SEEMED UNCERTAIN  
OF DIRECTION THAT EVOLUTION TAKING. WHEN ASKED  
WHETHER HE FORESAW " MORE BRAZILS " HE APPEARED TO  
HAVE NO CLEAR DESIGN.

(B) P. M. DOUBTED THAT THE CHANGES NECESSARY FOR  
RESOLUTION OF PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN PROBLEMS WOULD OCCUR  
DURING HIS TENURE IN OFFICE AND REPEATED SEVERAL  
TIMES HE " NOT A DICTATOR". BEST HE COULD DO WAS TO  
REACT TO EVENTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES AS THEY OCCUR,  
RATHER THAN INSTITUTE PLAN FOR FUTURE.

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( C ) IN EXCHANGE WITH JOURNALIST ON HOW  
PORTUGAL IS SEEN FROM ABROAD, CAETANO SAID ATTITUDES  
TOWARDS PORTUGAL HAVE IN GENERAL NOT RPT NOT  
IMPROVED.

( D ) IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, CAETANO ADMITTED  
THAT GOP FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO ROUND UP CANDIDATES  
FOR OVERSEAS PROVINCIAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS  
IN LATE MARCH ( LISBON 836 ) . P. M. NOTED GOVERNMENT  
HAMSTRUNG BY LAW PROHIBITING CIVIL SERVANTS FROM  
HOLDING ELECTIVE OFFICE AND ALSO RELUCTANT TO SEEK  
CHANGE LAW BY DECREE OR ARBITRARY MEANS.  
POST

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* LIMDIS  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic DecapTIONing:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAR 1973  
**DecapTION Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**DecapTION Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LISBON00882  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971118  
**Subject:** CAETANO BACKGROUNDER  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PO  
**To:** EUR  
LOURENCO MARQUES  
LUANDA  
OPORTO  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

